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inspectors point out that the lesson to be learned is the need of a statute which shall go to the root of the matter by absolutely prohibiting tenement-house manufacture in any form, and shall provide a penalty for disobedience of the inspectors' orders.

Further, the need of an efficient board of health, and a systematic record of all information relating to contagious diseases is strongly urged. Until these are secured, the inspectors think, all efforts will continue to be nugatory in the future as in the past.

H. P. WILLIS.

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*A Catalogue of the Library of Adam Smith.* Edited, with an Introduction, by JAMES BONAR. London: Macmillan & Co., 1894. 8vo. pp. xxx+126.

To all true book lovers, whatever their special interests, such a book as this brings more delight than can easily be told. To the interested student it gives a certain feeling of companionship with the great genius whose literary history it is intended to elucidate. So little has been added to the meager biographical material of the great Scotchman originally provided by his friend Dugald Stewart, that each new fragment has a very serious value to the student of his life and works. Mr. Bonar deserves the gratitude of a wide circle of readers for this new and large glimpse into the workroom of the great economist. His part of the work has been done with care, and taste, and judgment. But the publishers are also entitled to praise for the added charm they have given the volume through its splendid mechanical execution. It is an excellent specimen of the best modern book-making.

The present enumeration contains about 1000 entries, and 2200 volumes, the larger part of the library before its dispersion, which Mr. Bonar estimates at about 3000 volumes. "Most of the books are bound solidly in calf. One or two are richly decorated, being presentation copies. William Smellie tells us that Adam Smith said to him, 'I am a beau in nothing but my books.' But as a rule he seems to have aimed at strength rather than elegance of binding, and was no hunter of rarities or choice editions." A classification of the books contained in the Catalogue shows that "more than a third are in English, a little less than a third in French, and rather less than a quarter in Latin; Italian and Greek accounting for the remainder in nearly equal proportions. There are three German, all presentation copies, and

translations of the author's works." About one-fifth of the books is on Literature and Art, one-fifth consists of classical authors, and one-fifth is on Law, Politics, and Geography. "Works on Political Economy and on History make up another fifth, in nearly equal proportions. Science and Philosophy divide the remaining fifth." Dugald Stewart spoke of Adam Smith's collection as "a small but excellent library, which he had gradually formed with great judgment in the selection."

It was not the fashion in Adam Smith's day for a writer elaborately to annotate his writings with references to the authorities and sources on which he had drawn for material statements of fact or opinion. That Adam Smith was in some instances a debtor had not, however, escaped detection. But the precise extent of his debt had not been determined. In the present Catalogue Mr. Bonar has entered in red ink the passages in Smith's writings in which he refers to other authors or their works, and these entries will appear surprisingly frequent to those readers who have been led by some versions of the history of political economy to suppose that Adam Smith created the science of political economy all of himself, out of his own head alone. It is interesting to find that Adam Smith's copy of the *Physiocratie*, though "well bound in calf, with gold tooling and gilt edges" is also "much worn."

Among other new and interesting matter the volume contains a *fac-simile* reproduction of a letter from Adam Smith to Strahan, written in 1760, in which he remarks, with characteristic humor, that "an author had sometimes better be in the wrong and believe himself in the right than be in the right and believe or even suspect himself in the wrong;" a copy of his will, directing the disposition to be made of his library; a ground plan of his house at Kirkcaldy; and a brief note on the portraits of Adam Smith, by Mr. John Gray, in which the writer expresses the opinion that the Tassie medallion of Smith was probably executed from life, and that, at any rate, it is a faithful likeness.

A. C. MILLER.

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*The Canadian Banking System, 1817-1890.* By ROELIFF MORTON BRECKENRIDGE. Toronto, 1894. 8vo. pp. 363.

In the course of the recent discussions touching the reorganization of the national banking system of the United States, frequent reference has been made to the Canadian banking system as one that presented